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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/856,188	05/17/2001	Frank Ziemer	514413-3873	4066

20999 7590 08/29/2005

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EXAMINER

CLARDY, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1617

DATE MAILED: 08/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1617

INTERFERENCE

Applicants' amendments filed June 10, 2005, making minor corrections and copying claims 1-9 of Ruegg, have been entered.

Allowable claim 34 of the application is considered to be the count for the purpose of an interference (35 U.S.C. § 135(a)) with claim 7 of U.S. Patent 6,746,987.

Claim(s) 1-11, 13-33, and 35-58 of the application are considered unpatentable over this count.

Allowable claim 35 of the application is considered to be the count for the purpose of an interference (35 U.S.C. § 135(a)) with claim 10 of U.S. Patent 6,489,267.

Claim(s) 1-11, 13-34, and 36-58 of the application are considered unpatentable over this count.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 41.202(c), applicant must comply with the requirements set forth in 37 CFR 41.202(a)(2)-(a)(6).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this communication expired **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of the previous action mailed April 7, 2005. Extensions of time may be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a). **In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the April communication.**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Mark Clardy whose telephone number is 571-272-0611. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on 571-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



S. Mark Clardy
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1616

August 22, 2005

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